HILL, THE SILENT MAN OF WOLFERT'S ROOST, PLANS TO FILL THE SHOES OF MARCUS HANNA.

He Never Drinke, Smokes, Smiles or Fails to Chill an Approach Toward Confidence.

(Special Correspondence of The Times-Dispatch.)

Dispatch.)

ALHANY, N. Y., May 28.—Silent, alone in the study of his country home on the boulvard which runs from Albany to the cometery between that city and Troy, tolls and plans, each day a man, soured and emplittered if the world's word be true, a man who having falled to realize the goal of his own great ambitton still struggles on, hoping, through forwarding the interests of another to gain at least a lasting, even if obscure, place on the pages of American history.

He is David Bennett Hill, the cold-chisel politician of Wolfert's Roost; Hill, through whose velns, his friends and enemies agree, runs ice water instead of blood—the man who has not smiled a human smile in twenty years.

There is a tinge of sadness about this great man's personality, for, with all his cynicism, he is the possessor of one of the greatest brains in the country. He ranks as one of the eleverest constitutional lawyers that ever lived; but he makes politics the ruling passion of his life. All human emotions are subservient to politics with him, and as for law, he refuses to practice it except at frequent intervals in order to secure enough money to supply his modest means.

Hill's Love Story.

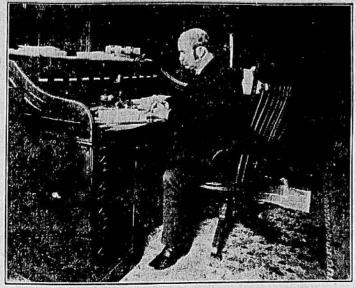
money to supply his modest means.

Hill's Love Story.

Twenty years ago, so it has been said by those who knew him and his surroundings at that time. Hill was bettothed to a young girl. She died. Since that time red blood has been unknown to his veins, and for the tragle disappointment he finds his only solace in politics. Politics has remained his one thought ever since. It has become the absorbing ambition of his life.

Hill is still a bachelor, and it is said a woman-bater. He avoids the female sex wherever and whenever possible; he has no sympathy with them; the refinement of woman's influence does not appeal to him, and he journeys through life in a hard, cynical, direct, and determined maner, calmy ploughing down every obstacle that appears in his path. Where is he travelling? It is hard for any man to say exactly, but from recent political developments it is evident his strong desire is to become a modest Warwickan maker of presidents, a man behind the throne. He looks with the longing eye upon the shoes of Hanna.

Fascinating and Repelling. Fascinating and Repelling.



DAVID B. HILL HARD AT WORK IN HIS OFFICE.

The Hill Housekeeper.

An aged woman-she must be well on a years though she has not changed in you are an unwelcome guest if you call at this strange bachelor abode. Wol-fert's Roost impresses one as a sort of modern House on the Marsh.

modern House on the Marsh.

The peculiarity about Mr. Hill's personality is that despite all of his chilliness he is decidedly a fascinating personage. He is not above asking a favor, yet at the rame time he will rebuil the person whose ald he seeks in the most cold blooded and cutting kind of manner. The atmosphere cools when Hill is around. A jovial errowd by instinct becomes reserved as he approaches, and yet his control of, men is quite remarkable. He seems to have a slient dominating influence that never fails to impress.

Can't Control the Propule

no club life; indeed his entire existence, must be one of the most utter dreariness, clee he must acknowledge that he is wrapped up so completely in his own personality that he finds his own ego completely self-satisfying.

while this complex character has for years been able to control men in the world of politics, he never has had any great influence over the people. His force seems to exhaust itself in the hall of

Thought He Was "Done For.'

Whether Hill is on the shoulders of Parker or Parker on the shoulders of Hill, matters not. Hill at least is the present visible and active manager of the ante-convention Parker campaign, and he structed its delegates for Judge Parker at least he must be reckoned with in the events that are now transpiring.

The atmosphere cools when Hill is at once facinating and repelling.

Can't Control the People.

Lust at the present time Hill has the built of the Parker boom on his shoulders are political associates as his worke-aday's existing of the Board's explicit of the Parker boom on his shoulders of Parker, a sort of modernized shoulders of Parker movement, but that found its way linto the great gloony that found its way linto the great gloony is a sort of control of the Parker movement, but that found its way linto the great gloony and re-echo from a carly date, and since has been at an early da events that are now transpiring. Seven years ago, when Hill retired from he United States Senate to make way for his Republican successor, Thomas C.

Over Political Conventions

has been put in the field without bearing his O. K. It also is interesting to note that not a single one of these tickets has been elected, save only in 1897, when, by an unmistakable fluke, Alton B. Parker was made Chief Justice of the

Court of Appeals.

Hill's management of the Parker campaign to date has been unique. No note of conciliation to the "outsiders" has been discovered at any point, and every of conciliation to the "outsiders" has been discovered at any point, and every move that he has made has been of a nature to give offense to the Democratic organization in the city of New York, the organization which must deliver its vote loyally to the ticket if the Democratic candidate for the presidency is to carry the State of New York, without which he cannot be elected. Yet this "management" has been distinctly Illicaque from start to finish. Hill has shown himself great in many respects. Indeed he has given many signs of political genius; still, at the critical moment he has always fallen flust, short of achivement. Thus it is with his management of campaigns. As a controller and dictator of conventions none exists who can excel him, but he seems to forget always that an election is the natural sequence of a convention. His domination of party machinery has been absolute, but, as before stated, his control of the popular vots has been conspicious by its absence.

He Tried to Smile.

He Tried to Smile.

To those who attended the State Convention at Albany on April 18, whether they were working heart and soul for Judge Parker, or whether they were fighting against the programme of instructions which prevailed, it was more than apparent that one ley grip held the convention. When the master entered the convention hall at the night session, the crowd cheered, but there was the same lack of enthusiasm and warmth in the cheers that there was in the stony countenance of Hill as he tried to smile back his asknowledgements. Earlier in the day, at the Ten Eyek Hotel, where he made his headquarters, the men who were about Hill saw the nearest approach to a human smile on his face that they had seen in a score of years, yet before the smile had been born it was extinguished by the chill that was fairly exuded from the personality of the men. Politicians, statesmen, lawyers, all whe came in contact with Hill, have learned to fear him, have learned to admire him. beginning of the end with Hill, at least as a leader, who could elect his ticket. Drank the Hemlock Draught. From the time of the election frauds, which gave Hill the Legislature and sent him and then Edward Murphy, Jr., to the United States Senate, his days of the United States beared, in supported. There came the disastrous campaign of 1893 when Maynard, his selection for Court of Appeals Judge, carried the entire Democratic ticket down to defeat and allowed the Republicans, in addition to electing their State officers of the year, to secure the State Legislature, and, what was more, the Constitutional Convention which met in the summer of 1894. That convention gave Hill his death blow, for it reapportioned the State by such a clever gerrymander that the Democrats cannot again secure control of the Legislature on joint ballot without carrying the State by at least 109,00 plurality. Troubles came thick and fast on Hill, and the following year his party, in convention at Saratoga, named him again for Governor, although he still was Senator.

In vain did Hill, who was the chairsuccessful leadership were numbered, man who has been able to warm the cockles of his heart to this glacier. Since his great love disaster Hill has

in convention at Saratoga, named him again for Governor, although he still was Senator.

In valn did Hill, who was the chairman of that Saratoga convention, fight against the move to nominate him. His enemies in the party realized that it was a losing year for Democracy, and they were determined that Hill himself should be compelled to drink the hemilock draught. He could not refuse to run, ence nominated, in view of the honors that had been his in the past, and with his defeat that fall by one of the biggest Republican pluralities ever piled up in the State, the control of the Democratic party in New York State became a thing of the past, Since that day Hill has regularly controlled the conventions of his party, has regularly dictated the nominations, and has with the same reg-

Paid the Freight," to become Governor

even for a single day.

"WOOLFERT'S ROOST," HILL'S BEAUTIFUL HOME.

ernor, Jones, of Baltimore, Jones "Who at the polls, Wanted to be President.

so, refusing to allow his Lieutenant Gov- ularity seen his candidates howled over

When Hill was Governor and at the

time he was young in office as United States Senator, the desire to become President became almost a mania with him. Probably it has been conceived, when he saw Grover Cleveland go from the Governorship of New York to the Presidency, but at any rate it was not until 1891 that its signs became manifest. Then, in February of the following year, came the "Snapper Convention" which named delegates to the National Convention instructed for Hill for President. With the downfall of the Hill boom at the National Convention and the subsequent ineffectual efforts to revive it in 1896, when Bryan was named, Hill retired to his shell/more and more and did not attempt to conceal the bitterness that was gnawing at his heart. His presidential ambitions still lingered, however, a.d., in 1900, there were flickers that gave every indication of breaking juto flame, if only the dear common people, who always had been Hill's chief care, had brought a kindly bellows into play to fan the frost-bitten embers. But 1900 was passed over without any clarion call for Hill, and 1904 sees him without hope of the honor that has been his consuming ambition, but with the ambition to pose as a Warwick instead.

His Present Hope. time he was young in office as United States Senator, the desire to become

His Idea Is to Become the Warwick of a Democratic Administration at Washington.

istration at Washington.

hopes to swing enough Democratic votes to elect a Legislature which will elect him Senator. On this programme the man of steel and ice is hammering away day and night, working and planing at all times, either at his handsome country home near the cemetery or else in his dingy law office on Broadway, Albany. The office is one of those old fashioned affairs in an old fashioned building, and never a ray of bright sunshine or of wholesome life invades it. Hill is essentially a man of dingy methods and inspected and inspected on the profess to work among these surroundings. Either at his office or in his more confortable study at his home he receives his political associates and followers, and maps out the programme his brain has evolved. All his visitors are associates or followers; none are friends.

A Magnificent Lawyer.

A Magnificent Lawyer.

A Magnincent Lawyer.

No relatives live with Hill, no one at all calls his house a home, save the servants who are employed at the place. It is distinctly bachelor's hall, and a very benighted and lonesome bachelor's hall at that. The home itself, a beautiful spot, was built and owned for years by Fritz Emmet, the actor. After Emmet's death some political admirers of Hill bought the place and gave it to the Senator. He rechristened it as Wolfert's Roost, and made it his own.

Hill's law practice is almost wholly.

rechristened it as Wolfert's Roost, and made it his own.

Hill's law practice is almost wholly confined to the Court of Appeals, over which Judge Parker presides, but the record of cases which Hill has tried there since Judge Parker took his seat as its head, shows that the court, and Judge Parker himself, has not hostitated at any time to take a view of a case entirely different than as Hill presented it. However, be it said to the credit of Hill that he is seidom wrong on a legal point and his knowledge of constitutional matters is the wonder and admiration of the entire legal profession. It will be remembered that the decision of the United States Supreme court some years ago in the Income Tax case road as though the learned justices had taken Hill's Senate speech against the income tax bill on passage, and had made it the basis for the decision. In the speech of Hill he had declared the act unconstitutional and on exactly the same grounds that, he gave the court so found, At the time of the speech Hill's position generally was ridiculed.

As to the People.

As to the People.

As a corporation lawyer he would rank at the top, yet with these talents he refused to practice except just enough to supply his needs, and for twenty years had kept steadfastly to the passion of his life, with the gratification of his ambittions further and further away with each new year.

NOTABLE MEN WHO FAILED TO REACH THE WHITE HOUSE.

time he secured a limit of the chinery that nothing since has been able to break, although on more than one octasion it has been dangerously near to the cracking point. His arrogance as

Rufus Rockwell Wilson in His Third Article Discusses the Causes and Incidents Attending the Failure of Famous Leaders to Secure the Nation's Highest Office.

have been eager and continued asfor the presidency have witnessed ent of their ambitions. The each that great office is, indeed, a longborne by men who have long forgotten that to the aver-

ferson in 1801 is a familiar one; and familiar also is the story of its sequel-his duel with Hamilton, which terminated scarcely more tragically for Hamilton than it did for his antagonist. Burr left the field uninjured in body, but a ruined man, and although he lived for nearly A quarter of a century atterward, he was, through most of that period, shunned and execrated by his former friends. Tried for treason for his daring and inexplicable scheme for capturing Texas and Mexico, he was acquitted on technical grounds, and then underwent long exile in Europe. He returned to New Yorkin 1812, resumed practice of the law, and by sheer force of pluck and talent gained largo sums. Misfortunes, however, crowded upon him thick and fast, and in 1833, after a career the most romantic, diversified and tragic in our history, he died at Port Richmond, Staten Island, alone and unattended, at the age of four score. a quarter of a century afterward, he

the several candidates for the presidency.
The Albany Regency, then controlled by
Martin Van Euren, favored the election
of Crawford. The Federalists were divised between Adams and Clay, Weed
himselt being a supporter of Adams. During the previous winter in Albany Weed
had made the acquaintance of a lobbyist
marned Stillwell, who was known to favor Crawford, and whom he now observed in frequent and carnest conference
with the member of the Legislature who
had been elected as an Adams man. At
Syracuse the lobbyist left the boat and
posted a letter, which, by means he
maver revealed. Weed found bore the
name and address of another member of
the Legislature who had also been elected
as an Adams man. He at once divined
that mischief of some sort was brewting and resolved to turn detective.
When Albany was reached Weed Saw
the man to whom the letter had been
sent to come to meet the lobbyist, and
with him board a boat for New York.
He took passage on the same boat and
followed them to a hotel in New York
where they met Henry Eckford, a wealthy
supporter of Crawford. This convinced
Weed that the Democratic wealth of
New York was going to be used to elect
Crawford, a contingency made possible
by the partisan make-up of the Cegislature, where a change of two or three
votes either way would give Crawford or
Adams the electors of the State, with
Weed still shadowing them, and visited
two other members of the Legislature,
elected to vote for Adams. Then Weed
the lobbyist and the Adams man left
Eckford, after a lengthy conference, they
went to the interior of the State, with
Weed still shadowing them, and visited
two other members of the Legislature,
elected to wate for Adams. Then Weed
the lobbyist and other Crawford men
were lodging. In this way enough was
gleaned to make it certain that bribery
was in progress.

When sure of his ground, Weed called
men Stillanie P. Tallimadge, a member

the electoral vote of New York, would have carried the electoral college, and the election of Adams by the House of curred. Many years later it was disclosed by one who was a party to the scheme, that a 'combination of rich New York Democrats had agreed to pay a certain sum of money for every vote given by an Adams man in the Legislature for Craw ford, and but for the discovery of the scheme by Weed the bribery would have n passing that before the close of the campaign of 1824 Crawford was stricke own with an illness which ended his political activity, and going back to Georgia, he died a few years later while holding a place on the bench of his State.

Calhoun, Clay and Webster.

When Jackson was first chosen President, in 1823. John C. Calhoun, then entering upon his second term as Vice-President, was regarded by Jackson as his natural and logical successor. But the controversy growing out of Calhoun's nullification doctrines forced him to retire from the vice-presidency, brought him into open conflict with Jackson, and forever put an end to his chances of reaching the presidency. Martin Van Buren supplanted Calhoun in Jackson's regard, and in 1836 succeeded Jackson in the presidency. The campaign of 1836 proved equally disastrous to the presidential aspirations of Hugh L. White, Willie P. Mangum and Daniel Webster, who, with the cider Harrison, in that year divided between them the suffrages of the Whigs. White and Mangum, though men of weight and influence in their time, ace now almost forgotten, but Webster will ever hold a high place in our history. However, in 1836, Webster received only fourteen electoral votes, and after that year he was never again a presidential candidate. He continued to be un aspirant for the office until near his death, and his name was often presented in nominating conventions, but the prize was always carried off by less gifted men. Calhoun, Clay and Webster.

him. Clayton had served many years in the Senate, and was counted one of the ablest men in the Whig party. In 1848 he had strong hopes of securing the Whig nomination, but Taylor was chosen in his stead, and he was never again an active seeken for the office. Scott, Haie and Marcy, were the wrecks stranded on the political bench in 1852. Scott, who would have been elected four years before, was then nominated for defeat, and Hale led the foriorn hope of the Free Soll party. Marcy, who was a statesman as well as a politician, was a leading aspirant for the Democratic nomination in 1852, but was defeated by Pierce. In 1856 the veteran John McLean was defeated by the brilliant and dashing Fremont in the convention of the newly created Republican party, and Fremont was in turn defeated by Buchanan at the poils.

Defeat of Seward and Douglas.

Oloved, there and unattended at the asof four score.

Charles of pick and specific section of the section of

1868, and his failure to receive it closed his political aspirations. He died five rears later.

The campaign of 1872 brought a drayears later.

The campaign of 1872 brought a dramatic, even tragic, conclusion to the career of Horace Greeley, one of the most picturesque characters in our history. In his muntal make-up no man of his generation contained so many weaknesses and absurdities, mingled with lofty aspirations and sturdy common sense. As a journalist, he wielded a greater influence than any other man in his calling in his time. His political judgments were generally shrewd and sagacious, but in permitting himself to be run for the presidency as the candidate of the Democrats and Liberal Republicans, expecting that he would carry the South and sweep the North, he committed one of the most amazing blunders in political annals. For Greeley, 1872 was especially tragic. That year witnessed his defeat for the presidency, the loss of his wife, serious reverses in business and Riaine.

of John C. Calhoun and an unlooked for incident of the campaign in New York. The people in a majority of the States at that time did not vote for the electors; they were chosen by the several Legislature in the winter of 124-25. Then were the meeting of the New York Legislature in the winter of 124-25. Then were the menting of the Carwford, Johnny, saw on the boat a member of the Legislature who he knew half beer elected as an Adams man. Adams, Crawford, Jackson and Clay were half of the Crawford. The Federalists were discovered the Clay were and for the Crawford. The Federalists were discovered the controlled by Martin Van Buren, favored the elected in pixel and fruits as man of the several candidates for the presidency.

The Johnny Regency, the controlled by Martin Van Buren, favored the elected in pixel and fruits as the pivotal State of New York Legislature in the wind they not voted I standard they were a favored to vote the blobylist and the Adams and on the canal boat, the story of the contest would have had a defeat by Polk for of the Legislature who he knew half been an actually and experience in public affairs, ability and experience in pub

his party in a national carvass.

THREE UNWRITTEN LAWS.

It seems to be one of the unwritten laws framed by the Presidential contests of the last eighty years that long continuance in party leadership is a fatal handicap to the man who seeks the Presidency. Nearly all of the successful candidates during that period held no office or were living in retirement when chosen, while not one of the men chosen since 1850 had been mentioned conspicuously in connection with the Presidency for any considerable number of years. Ancher of the unwritten laws referred to hars the resident of a large city from nomination and election to the Presidency. The successful candidates, as a rule, have come from the smaller towns and country villages. A third of these unwritten laws makes it clear that the chances of success in a second contest are against the man who has once been a candidate for President. The re-election of Lincoln, as well as Grant and McKinley, was due to exceptional conditions, while since Jackson's time only two men once nominated and defeated, the elder Harrison and Cleveland, have afterward been nominated and elected.

Thus it would appear that the young

to those who believe in them, and there are such, that nothing is going to be done? Can Mr. Bryan afford to take this position? Either he has been in carnest or he hat not. If he has, he must go on and bolt. If he has not been in carnest his influence will be gone.—Philodolphia. Press.

China and the War.

china and the War.

"Is efforts to reach as futile as those as force and to a convenient of which harrison carried the convention of ballot except the hich Harrison carried the affairs than any the convenient of the conveni

The Balloon Plant.

The Balloon Plant.

One of the curious devices of natura for scattering seeds is seen in the balloon plant of California. The fruit is yellow, and is a little larger than an egg. It has the appearance of an empty bag, not of a solid, but it contains a watery substance which evaporates of dries up when the fruit matures, a sort of gas taking its place. This gas it lighter than air, and the fruit flips back and forth in the wind until it finally breaks loose from its slender stem, rises into the air to a height of from sevent. into the air to a height of from sevent, live to a hundred feet, and salls away to full in some distant spot, and thus extend the growth of its kind.

By a New Process.

By a New Frocess.

An invention has recently been shown in Birmingham, England, for the seamless welding of fron, steel and other metals by a new process. A flame is formed by burning acctylene with oxygen, and it by birning acetylene with oxygen, and it is directed in the usual way by means of a blowpipe. It is said that the hardest merals may be welded in this way as readily as lead. Notwithstanding the intense heat of the flame, the process does not make necessary the protection of the eyes by dark glasses, for the mixture of oxygen with the acetylene removes the glare and leaves a small flame of a greenish-blue color.

The Russian Peril.

The real peril to Europe, if there is any peril at all, must be looked for in Russia. Japan has done much to minimize it, for she has shown that Russias military efficiency is much less than it was supposed to be. We should think that the statestimen of Europe would be grateful for the demonstration. Europe's interests will be served by some weakening of Russia. Of course, the Russian states, men have done what they could to sociate the people of Furope over the vellow peril. It has been a good campaign ety, and they have made the most of it—indianced Sees.